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PATENT  
Docket No. IMPEL.57972

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:	SIESS, Thorsten;	)	
	FLAMENG, Willem	)	Examiner:
		)	Art Unit:
Int'l Appl No:	PCT/EP00/00863	)	
		)	
Int'l Filing Date:	03 February 2000	)	
		)	
Title:	A DEVICE FOR	)	
	INTRAVASCULAR CARDIAC	)	
	VALVE SURGERY	)	
		)	

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited via First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. on August 3, 2001.

By:   
Gunther Hanke, Reg. No. 32,989

Date of Signature: 8/3/01

Long Beach, California  
August 3, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX: PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the claims as follows: